

Hillcrest Elementary Parent Involvement Policy (Revised 11/10/11)

Rationale:

The Board of Education of the Logan City School District and Hillcrest Elementary recognizes that parents or legal guardians are the first and often the most influential teachers their children will have. The Logan City School District and Hillcrest Elementary has a stewardship from the parents and the community to provide the formal component of the education for each child in the Logan City School District, in partnership with parents and the community. There is overwhelming evidence of the positive effect that significant, consistent parental involvement in a child's formal education has on the quality of the child's education.

Action Steps:

To this end, the Board of Education and Hillcrest Elementary supports parent/family involvement in the Logan City School District. These include, but will not be limited to the following components:

Parent Expectations:

- Providing a home environment that values education.
- Sending children to school every day, on time, and prepared to learn.
- Understanding the direct effect parental involvement has on the educational success of their child.
- Serving on decision-making committees.
- Supporting school expectations of: Be Safe, Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Be Successful.
- Working with their child to understand and complete homework and contacting the child's teachers if homework is not understood.
- Attending SEP (Student Education Plan) Conferences and following through by using strategies suggested for helping each child achieve his/her goals.

Establish consistent and effective communication between teachers, administrators, and the parents of students through:

- Distributing regular newsletters.
- Using technology to foster parental involvement in their child's education including web sites, phone messages, e-mail, electronic attendance, etc.
- Consistently keeping our Pinnacle Standards Based Web Program up to date
- Giving parents information in an understandable and uniform format.
- Requesting Parent/Teacher or other conferences when needed.
- Providing SEP Conferences.
- Assisting non-English speaking and other parents in need of translations.
- Notifying parents of students at risk for failure.
- Implementing parental involvement outreach programs and objectives (e.g. Literacy and Curriculum Nights each year)
- Indicators of School Quality (ISQ) Surveys where students, parents, and staff can indicate our effectiveness as a school

Promote parent participation by:

- Inviting parents to serve on Board of Education committees.
- Coordinating and integrating parent involvement strategies with such programs as Parents as Teachers, Head Start, etc.
- Providing professional development opportunities for staff members to enhance the understanding of effective parental involvement strategies.

Promote parent participation through:

- Encouraging parents to join PTA.
- Coordinating with PTA to provide opportunities for parents to serve as school and classroom volunteers.
- Encouraging parents to participate on school community councils and informing them of the election process.
- Reviewing with parents the school-parent compact that outlines how parents, teachers, and students will share responsibility for improving student achievement.
- Providing information to parents about the Family Information and Resource Center which provides instruction and training to help parents become active in their child's education.
- Inviting parents to participate as encouraging spectators at school events and programs.

Promote community involvement by:

Encouraging community employers to support parental and community involvement that fosters student achievement, including development of policies and programs that allow their employees opportunities for greater participation in public education during school hours.

Conflict resolution statement:

It is essential that teachers and parents work together through ongoing communication and common goals for students. Constructive criticism, motivated by a sincere desire to improve the quality of the educational program, or to equip the schools to do their tasks more effectively, is welcomed by the Board of Education.

All conflicts are best resolved at the level where they occur. If a student or parent has an issue with a teacher, a personal conversation could resolve it. Appropriate channeling of communication involving instructional, discipline, or learning materials will be as follows:

1. Teacher or instructional Specialist
2. Principal
3. Superintendent or designee
4. Board of Education

Conclusion:

All students benefit when parents and schools work together, are positive, and promote a partnership.